



## **SEEDING**

### DEFINITION & PURPOSE

Seeding is used to establish temporary or permanent vegetation in order to protect exposed soil from erosion.

### CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE USE

The SWPPP should include a site-specific seeding specification for permanent seeding and for temporary seeding if needed. For public improvements, seeding specifications can be found in Chapter 13, City of Springfield General Conditions and Technical Specifications. See MDNR Guide [Section 6-71 Temporary Seeding](#) and [Section 6-77 Permanent Seeding](#) for other specifications and guidance. Conduct a soil test to determine the need for soil amendments. Specifications for topsoil and soil amendments should be followed to ensure vegetation establishment and growth. Fertilizer should only be applied if a soil test indicates it is needed. Use additional stabilization (erosion control blankets, etc.) on slopes steeper than 3:1 and in areas of concentrated flow.

### INSTALLATION/CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES

Seeding should be done immediately after completion of a phase of grading, or in areas where construction activity has ceased for 14 days. Follow seeding specification for topsoil, soil amendments, seed type, seeding rate, and seeding dates. Apply straw or other mulch (see Mulching). Water immediately, to a depth of 4 inches.

### OPERATION & MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

Inspect every week and within 48 hours after every rain event that causes stormwater runoff to occur on-site. Protect seeded areas from vehicular and foot traffic. Reseed and mulch areas that have not sprouted within 21 days of planting. Repair damaged or eroded areas and reseed/mulch as needed. Do not mow until 4 inches of growth occurs. During the first 4 months, mow no more than 1/3 the grass height. Seeded areas should be repaired and reseeded/mulched for one year following permanent seeding to ensure successful establishment.

### ROBUST ALTERNATIVES:

- Sod and Hydroseed